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CANADA
THE MASK
GUESS WHO'S...
...BACK?

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story & art
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swell dialogue
BILL MESSNER-LOEBS
finishes
JIM SINCLAIR
lettering
MIKE HEISLER
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STEVE OLIFF
and OLYOPTICS
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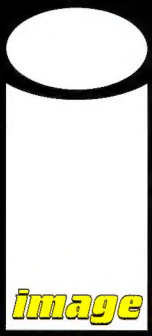


I STOLE SOME MORE FOOD FOR YOU, JASPER.
THANKS, LINC. AND THANKS FOR NOT TELLING. IF DAD FOUND OUT, HE'D WUP ME GOOD.
JEEZ, IT'S BEEN THREE WEEKS. I'D GIVE ANYTHING NOT TO HAVE MY HAND STUCK IN THIS STUPID DIMENSIONAL PORTAL THING.
ANYTHING? EVEN YOUR NEW BIKE WITH THE GLOW-IN-THE-DARK HANDLEBARS?
SURE. WHY?
¡AAAA!
S389

OOOOUUUF!
WHERE AM I?
LESSEE... SARAH AND I USED MY OLD KEY TO SLIP INTO JULIE'S HOUSE. WE WERE TRYING TO FIND SOME CLUE AS TO WHERE SHE MAY HAVE GONE. ALSO, HER RECORD COLLECTION WAS JUST SITTING THERE...
I REMEMBER LISTENING TO SOME OLD BEE GEES DISKS AND GETTING VERY SLEEPY...
I MUST HAVE FALLEN ASLEEP... SLIPPED INTO THE PARALLEL REALITY OF THE OUTBACK.
FUNNY. MY OUTBACK HAS BEEN A DESERT SINCE JULIE LEFT.
AND THIS PLACE SEEMS TO BE MADE UP OF QUILTS AND LINOLEUM!
NOT A GOOD SIGN.

OH, YEAH. LINOLEUM, QUILTS, AND HUGE PIPES MADE OF ALUMINUM.
MUSTN'T FORGET THE BIG PIPES!
ACTUALLY, IF YOU SQUINT THEY LOOK JUST LIKE HUGE LAWN CHAIRS.
AT LEAST I'M NOT TALKING OUT LOUD TO MYSELF YET. THAT'S GOOD.
THAT'S PROGRESS.
HAH?

STOP! THIS IS PRIVATE PROPERTY! I AM THE KING!
ONLY I CAN GET HERE...IN MY CHARMING AND ROGUISH WAY, OF COURSE!
THE KING?
YES, AND I'M HERE TO PROTECT THE PRINCESS FROM ALL INTERLOPERS!
SPLASH
UH-OH. THE JOINT'S LEAKING! MUST'VE BEEN A PSYCHIC PENETRATION SOMEWHERE! A VIOLATION!
HOWEVER WILL I GET AWAY? I'LL DROWN! MY LEGS ARE TOO SHORT!

:sigh: ALL RIGHT! ALL RIGHT! I'LL TAKE YOU!
UH, THANKS. COULD YOU NOT DENT MY LITTLE TIN BODY TOO?
SPLOOSH
SPLOOSH
SPLOOSH
LOOKIT, MR. DIAL-A-DOODLE! A BIG PURPLE TOY THAT TALKS TO ITSELVES!
HOW ORIGINATIBLE!
BITCH, BITCH, BITCH. SAY, DO YOU KNOW IF THOSE ARE REALLY LAWN CHAIRS?
PLINKY!!
YUSS!
I'M NOT A TOY! I'M... I'M...
AND I DON'T TALK TO MYSELF EITHER!
HEY! THE WATER'S GETTING DEEPER ON THE CEILING!

'COURSE IT IS! EVERY-THING'S BEEN TURNED UPSIDE DOWN!
YOU TELLS 'IM, MR. RUTABAGA-HEAD!
WE LOVES YOU, MR. TALKS-TO-ITSELF!
PUMPKIN
YUSS!
TAKES US WITH YOU!
OH, F'R...
I WONDER WHAT HAPPENED TO THAT OTHER BOZO I WAS SUPPOSED TO BE CARRYING?
GEEZ, I HATE DREAM LOGIC!
IT... SMELLS LIKE... LIKE...
WHAT'S THAT?

...A HORSE.
A VERY
BIG...
THE WAGON! QUICK! IT'S OUR ONLY CHANCE!
IF ALLEN FUNT COMES OUT NOW, I'M GONNA DIE!
OH, MAN!

THOSE SURE DO LOOK LIKE LAWN CHAIRS.
I WILL SAVE YOU, ALL MY SMALL FRIENDS!
I AM THE PROTECTOR OF THIS PLACE. I AM GOODNESS AND JUSTICE.
I AM THE MAXX!
OH, MAN. MY HEAD HURTS.
AND WE'LL *HELP!* MR. RUTABAGA-HEAD WILL PULL THE STRING ON MR. YAKITY-TAKITY SO HE CAN READ WHAT'S WRITTEN ON MR. DIAL-A-DOODLE AND WE'LL KNOW *WHERE* TO GO!

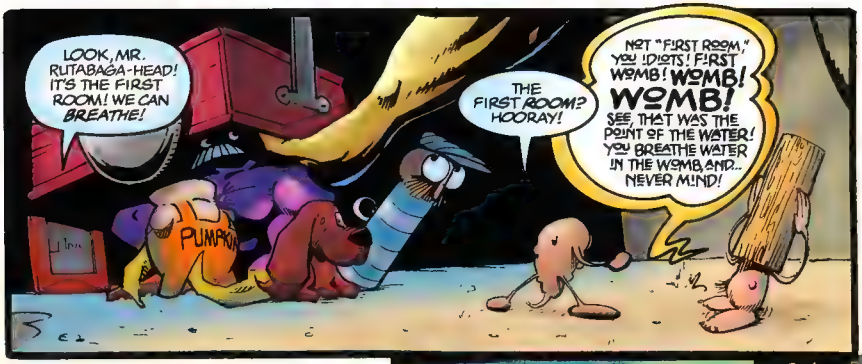
THERE IS NO NEED. THE MAXX KNOWS WHERE TO GO. WE MUST HURRY TO THE FIRST ROOM, BEFORE THE WATER SINKS ANY LOWER.
THE FIRST ROOM?
YLISS. THE BEGINNINGS PLACE.

THERE'S NOT ENOUGH TIME! THE WATER IS FLOODING IN! EVERYBODY DOWN!
PUMPKIN!
THE MAXX WILL MAKE AN AIR SPACE FOR ALL HIS SMALL FRIENDS!
THE MAXX WILL PROTECT YOU WITH ALL HIS STRENGTH!
OUCHIE.

NOW I WILL FIGHT MY WAY ON TO VICTORY! MUST HOLD ON! CANNOT BLACK OUT!
KEEP RUNNING, MR. TALKS-TO-ITSELF, OR YOU'LL BE DROWNED AND CRUSHED!
PUMPKIN
YOU MAKE THAT SOUND LIKE A BAD THING.
OOPS. MR. RUTABAGA-HEAD IS GETTING AN UNHEALTHY ATTACHMENT TO MR. DIAL-A-DOODLE. BETTER PULL THEM APART!

AT LAST! WE CAN BREATHE WATER IN THE FIRST ROOM!
I MUST ENTER. I AM THE PROTECTOR! I...
HOLD IT, HORSE-BOY!
YEAH, YEAH! WELL, I'M THE KING, AND I SAY NOBODY GETS TO KNOW THE PRINCESS, EXCEPT ON MY SAY SO!
YOU WANNA BUY SOME LOVE? THREE BUCKS A BUSHEL!

IT'S NOT COOL TO HALLUCINATE, SWEETIE. YOUR POPS IS AS DEAD AS JANIS!
LOOK, MUVVY! DADDY TALK TO HORSIE!


LOOK, MR. RUTABAGA-HEAD! IT'S THE FIRST ROOM! WE CAN BREATHE!
PUMPKIN
THE FIRST ROOM? HOORAY!
NOT "FIRST ROOM," YOU IDIOTS! FIRST WOMB! WOMB! WOMB! SEE, THAT WAS THE POINT OF THE WATER! YOU BREATHE WATER IN THE WOMB AND... NEVER MIND!

SARAH WASN'T BUYING THIS WHOLE PRINCESS METAPHOR ANYWAY. SHE DIDN'T EVEN SHOW UP. :CLK:
SHOW UP :CLK: SHOW UP :CLK: SHOW UP :CLK:
HEY, THIS MR. GONE ISN'T REAL. IT'S JUST A TAPE CASSETTE!

LIKE THE REST OF THIS IS REAL!

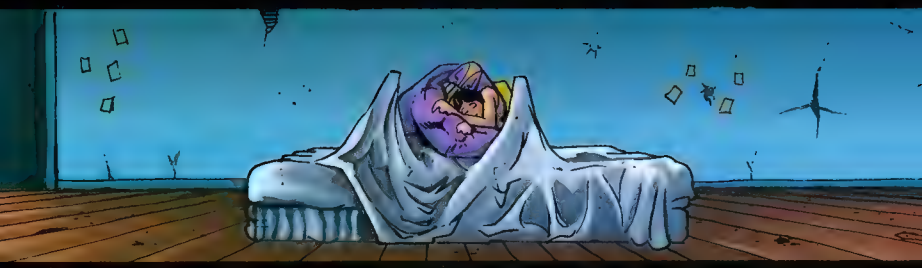
HEY, THE TAPE KEEPS UNRAVELING! THERE'S MILES OF IT! IT'S COVERING UP EVERYTHING!
QUICK, MR. TALKS-TO-ITSELF, DO SOMETHING! WE'LL BE LOST! FORGOTTEN!
I'M TRYING!
TRYING

SOMETIMES, SARAH, YOU CAN LIKE BE SO TRYING!
THAT WAS A BRAND NEW TAPE OF EARTH, WIND AND FIRE! I'LL LIKE NEVER GET IT BACK IN THE CASE, LINCOOL!
YOUR GRANDMA SHOULD SEE WHAT HER "LITTLE PRINCESS" IS LIKE ON DAYS LIKE THIS, HUH? GO AN' PLAY WITH YOUR TOYS IN LIKE THE NICE QUILT CASTLE YOUR GRAMPA BUILT FOR YOU! GET SOME...

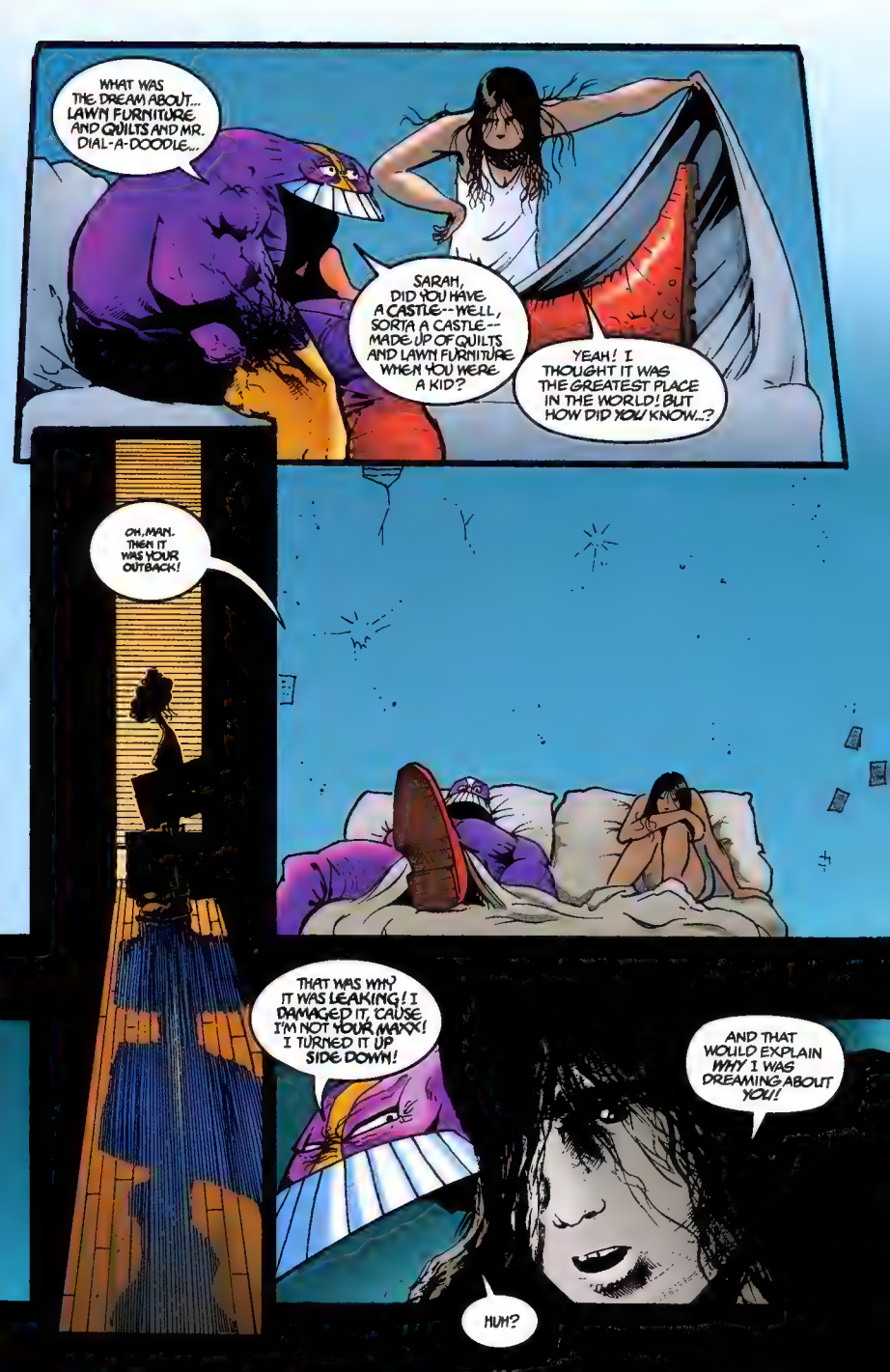
...SLEEP...

...SLEEP...

...SLEEP...



OH, HI, MAXX. I GUESS WE, UH, MUST'VE FALLEN ASLEEP... HUH?
HI, SARAH... UH, YEAH. YEAH. I GUESS WE DID.
EEW, GAWD. WHERE WAS MY HAND?
AFTER THAT BIZARRE OUTBACK DREAM, I CAN'T REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED!
ELO
OUT OF THE BLUE
PINK FLOYD
I CAN'T BELIEVE I WOULD'VE... NOT WITH SARAH! SHE'S WHAT... 16? 17? I WOULD'VE REMEMBERED THAT!
I WONDER IF THERE'S SOME DIPLOMATIC WAY I CAN WASH MY HAND?


WHAT WAS THE DREAM ABOUT... LAWN FURNITURE AND QUILTS AND MR. DIAL-A-DOODLE...
SARAH, DID YOU HAVE A CASTLE--WELL, SORTA A CASTLE--MADE UP OF QUILTS AND LAWN FURNITURE WHEN YOU WERE A KID?
YEAH! I THOUGHT IT WAS THE GREATEST PLACE IN THE WORLD! BUT HOW DID YOU KNOW...?
OH, MAN. THEN IT WAS YOUR OUTBACK!
THAT WAS WHY? IT WAS LEAKING! I DAMAGED IT, 'CAUSE I'M NOT YOUR MAXX! I TURNED IT UP SIDE DOWN!
AND THAT WOULD EXPLAIN WHY I WAS DREAMING ABOUT YOU!
HUH?

WELL, ABOUT YOUR PAST ANYWAY. WHO YOU WERE BEFORE YOU WERE THE MAXX.
MY... PAST?
OH, RIGHT. THAT'S YOUR SECRET IDENTITY AND STUFF. DON'T WORRY. I ALWAYS FORGET MY DREAMS.
NO, SARAH, YOU CAN'T FORGET! YOU HAVE TO TELL ME. WHO WAS I?
WELL, I...
CLIC
SNIF

MAXX?!
AND
SARAH?!

Our amazing colorist, Steve Oliff, did a back-up story for this issue. He's been working on these characters for many years, and only now has he started to pencil, ink, and color them himself. I'm flattered that he was willing to let them be previewed in Maxx, although that seems most fitting, since his character "Armature" first appeared in Maxx #6 (p. 4) as a lamp.

Dear SAM,
First of all, your comic rules! Second, I've been watching *Oddities* on MTV, but I've only seen "The Head" for the last four weeks. When is *THE MAXX* going to be on?
Your fan,
Jose Corona
Tucson, AZ

March 27—I swear to God. Because it's grouped under the "Oddities" banner, you might not find it in TV listings under "The Maxx." So look for it!

MARCH 27
"ODDITIES"
Monday, 10 p.m.
MTV

But enough about the cartoon. How 'bout that rascally old comic. . .

Yo Sam,
I am very disappointed that you decided not to participate in the Death Dealer project over at Verotik. I really would have enjoyed seeing your interpretation of Frank Frazetta's Death Dealer. Your reason for not doing the Dealer was freakin' lame, too. I am sick and tired of you putting yourself down and I won't stand for it!

Ok, now I'm sitting. Sam you are really awesome, I just wish you would admit it. Did you know it takes me over an hour to read a comic you did artwork in because I have to gaze upon every divine stroke of your pen or brush, whichever you decide to use at the time? I am a musician and can't draw at all, but I wish I could, just so I could try to draw like you. Please don't ever turn down a project again because of shame. I and so many others love your art work so much. Are you ashamed of that???
Your friend,
Daniel Wright
Ridgewood, NY

Methinks me hit a nerve. Ok—I'm f%@&ing awesome—happy? Seriously, when I put myself down, I'm just trying to keep both feet on the ground. I just can't stand arrogant artists. And when I can't get my art to look the way *I* want it to, that doesn't mean I'm dissin' people who *do* like it.
(Me say "dissin'"—me feel hip.)

Yo Sam,
I know you said the cartoon is going to look a lot like the comic, but from what I saw in Cut & Print in *Wizard*, it's almost freakin' identical. They had a still picture in *Wizard* of Maxx sitting in jail after being arrested for threatening Frige. The picture from the cartoon looked so much like the comic, I had to put the two side by side. The only reason I could tell the difference was because Julie is wearing a different outfit in the cartoon picture. Otherwise, the two pictures are identical, right down to the writing on the jail cell wall.
Daniel Wright
(again)

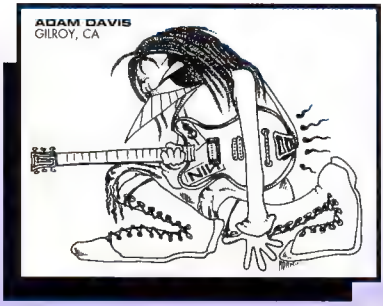
Oop's, there's more cartoon stuff again, and more from Daniel Wright. Maybe we're getting stuck in a rut. On to something fresh. . .We felt

really guilty about using a cheap gimmick like

SEX

to get your attention last issue, and we'll never let it happen again.

After this time:



Dear Sam, Bill,
and Team-Maxx,

The thing that has puzzled me is that in all the interpretations that you've received about the story, not one (unless I'm forgetting something) has addressed the apparent use of the Isz as a phallic symbol. From their shape alone, it seems obvious. Is that why nobody's brought it up? Or is it the subject matter that writers avoid? The symbolism explains the change the Isz make between the two dimensions. In the "real" world, a world in which Julie has been raped, the Isz are evil, aggressive, violent. They are intruders, popping up (no pun intended) in secure places (Julie's apartment), or as figures who should protect us (policemen). This illustrates Julie's insecurity, as well as the source of that insecurity. In the Outback, where the Leopard Queen rules, they are benign, dangerous only in overwhelming numbers (resembling herds of gigantic sperm). For most, death awaits at the end of the herd's specific trek, much like the ultimate end of most individual sperm cells (for further details, visit your local library, ask your parents, or enjoy hours of educational fun at home with a microscope and a Jocelyn Elders Handbook!).

Gianfranco Origliato
Cranford, NJ

Herds of sperm? Say. . .where can I get that handbook?

Dear Sammy,

The Buicks in the Outback are the representations of a massive destructive force, something to be feared, a sure death-bringer.

I love being correct!

Erik Lervold
Lares, PR

***My question is: Why is a Buick* the only real-world thing that has appeared in the Outback?**

The tone of Maxx Traxx is basically flip and light, but this next letter is not.

Dear Sam,

How's it going? I'm okay. I really, really enjoy your brilliant comic book. The art work is beautiful and the writing and dialog are smooth and flow well. Mr. Kieth, I was wondering if you could print this even though it gets away from the rest of other letters' topics. You see, I think it would be the perfect chance to get something off my chest.

Six days before I wrote this letter, the 21st of December, I was at band practice with my girlfriend Patricia Rodriguez, my brother Raul and our friend Adam Ruiz. We played that night and after a while stopped to take a break. Eating some bad food, I got sick and called to go home. A few minutes later, my dad shows up and me and Patricia leave; my brother stays there to spend the night. When we pulled up to our apartment, my dad gets out first and I grab some equipment and get out of the van next. Patricia is still in the van when I turn to see my dad talking to someone. Well, my eyes focused and I saw a gun in that man's hand, pointed at my dad's head. I turned quickly to Patricia, almost in tears, fearing my dad was going to die. I told her to please, please stay in the van. I turned around and the man pointed the gun at me and said, "Come here, bitch!" Without hesitating, I raised my arms and as I walked to be with my dad, I could see that coward better. He was wearing a black bandana over his face that covered him almost completely except for his eyes. My dad dropped his wallet on the ground and the man picked it up, then told us to turn around and walk. Before we could fully turn around, the coward was gone, so we dashed up the stairs to our apartment, rushing through the door. My dad was yelling "Dial 911, dial 911!" My mom rushed into the living room and starts screaming "What happened, what happened!" "We were just mugged!" I kept yelling. My dad yells "Call 911" as he gets his gun (he's a Dallas police officer).

Everybody rushes down to what see what happened. I rush to see if Patricia is alright 'cause she was still in the van. When I get there, she's okay but everybody's in tears, scared that one of us was hurt. I yell and start banging things. My emotions were out of control and I remember yelling, "Where the hell are you!" My dad yells at me to

get back here and then he went limping with his gun, looking for the bastard. "Merry Christmas!" I yell at the top of my lungs.

Mr. Kieth, I wanted to say this to be heard by you and your readers. I've chosen to be civilized and not act out my anger with a gun on anyone. I could be angry and hurt everybody, but I'm human and not some damn beast. To the thief with the gun: No matter how strong you think you are with that gun, we will always be stronger than you. No matter how angry you think you can get, we get even angrier with you and your ways. There's probably a reader out there who had worse things happen to him or her, but they're all assaults made by the same low-lifes, and I'm very fortunate to be alive.

So if I could please be heard, I would like to say, take care, every one of you. Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and never let those beasts get you down. Oh yeah, one more thing: I meant to say that every one of you working on the comic are doing a wonderful job.

See you later,
Rene Espinosa
Dallas, TX

I was a little worried about printing such a personal letter here in Maxx Traxx, but I think that's the point of why you wrote it. Hope it helps.

Dear SAM,

First: My English is horrible, excuse it. Read and understand, OK, but writing a letter? Meep.

And now: THANK YOU, THANK YOU!! For what? For Darker Image and Maxx. The best comics I ever read. Yes, that's true: THE BEST. The story, your artwork, the colors—Great. I love Sarah, she's so cute! Please, never a MAXX-story without her. And the Jungle Queen with black hair. . .Frazetta, I like his work too. I hope MTV Europe will bring the MAXX cartoons to me and my TV. The best joke: Maxx #9, page 7. "Oh GREAT! There's no paper." Brilliant.

But what is with the woman in red from MAXX #7? Where did Mr. Gone take her? Eat the Isz's her? And why take Mr. Gone her? Questions in a world full of blue?!!

Stephan Korting
Germany

If you think anything about this letter is odd, you should see me write in German!

Dear Sammykins,

MAXXRULESMAXXISPRETTYDARNNIFTY!!!

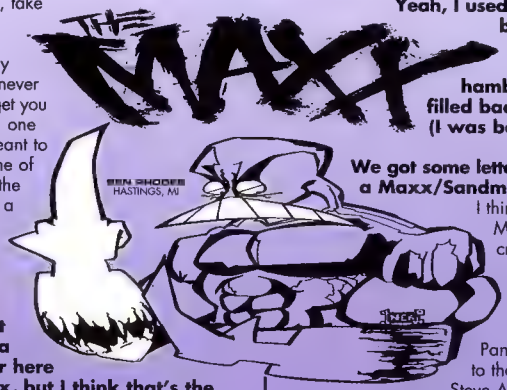
That said, I have some questions/comments:

Did you do "pencil finishes" for Comico's Robotech Masters (specifically No. 11, Oct '86)? Or was that another Sam Kieth?

Pleasepleaseplease get together with Neil Gaiman again!!!

Wank you for your thyme,
Nathan John Tobin
210 Claremont Ave.
Louisville, KY 40206

P.S. Anyone interested in corresponding with me, please write! I like Sandman, Excalibur, Dragon, Shadowhawk, Sin City, Star Trek, Mr Hero, Superman, Spawn, Books of Magic, Tyrant, Vampirella, Madman, The Invisibles, and Cerebus. Pearl Jam, too.



Yeah, I used to ink Robotech, but eventually I got fired for adding giant hamburgers to star-filled backgrounds (I was bored, OK?).

We got some letters in support of a Maxx/Sandman thing, like:

I think that a Maxx/Sandman crossover would be a great idea. You could have Maxx fall asleep and instead of going to Pangaea, he could go to the Dreaming.

Steve Achenbach
Thousand Oaks, CA

I fully support any Sandman/Maxx team-up that eventually comes about. Maybe I'm being a little crazy, but somehow I feel a cover with both the Image and Vertigo logos on it would be a kind of vindication for Sam and Neil alike.

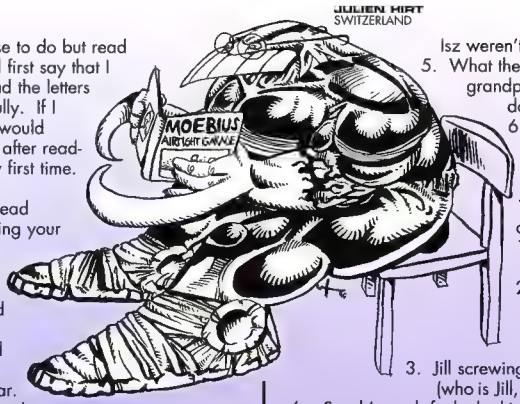
Jay MacIntyre
West Chester, PA

Maxx-Sandman crossover? Killer! You've got to do it! Tell Mr. Gaiman that every Maxx-head is a fan of his work (I know I am!). I think it would be awesome to see Death and Julie in the same book. (That would be a book worth cashing in cans for!)

Eric Leman
Fall River, MA

Dear Sam Kieth,

Wow! What else can I say except, Wow! When I first read Issues #One-half through #12, I can honestly say I had no idea what was going on **[cool!]**. This weekend changed everything. Being sick with a cold,



JULIEN HIRT
SWITZERLAND

I had nothing else to do but read comics. I should first say that I don't always read the letters pages too carefully. If I had, everything would have been clear after reading #11 the very first time. Oh well.

Anyway, I re-read #1/2-12, including your "At this point in time" speech at the end of Issue #11. I also read Nicholas Jahr's letter in #12 and lo and behold, everything is clear. I mean I understand what's going on. *The Maxx* is one of my favorite books and it pleases me to know what the hell you're talking about. Thanks for providing one of the greatest comics being published at this time. Keep up the great work.

A complete Maxx-head
Ropber M. Robles
San Antonio, TX

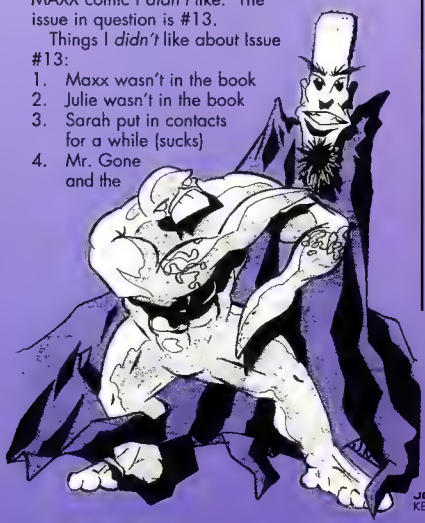
This letter would be great if we really DID know what we were doing. For example, page one of this issue was SUPPOSED to be the LAST page of Issue 12, which happened six seconds before page ONE of Issue 12. But we screwed up, so it's the first page of this issue. Pretend it happened 23 pages ago.

Dear Sammity Kieth,

I'm sorry to say I have just read the first MAXX comic I *didn't* like. The issue in question is #13.

Things I *didn't* like about Issue #13:

1. Maxx wasn't in the book
2. Julie wasn't in the book
3. Sarah put in contacts for a while (sucks)
4. Mr. Gone and the Isz weren't in the book
5. What the hell do Sarah's grandparents have to do with anything?
6. None of my letters were in the Maxx Traxx section.



Things I *did* like about Issue #13:

1. Sarah's legs (hubba hubba)
2. Cool MAXX over (even though it was misleading)
3. Jill screwing everybody (who is Jill, anyway)
4. Sarah's cool, funky lookin' grandfather and his spaceship.

Daniel (Screw-head) Wright

You again?

Things I didn't like about *your letter*:

1. **When Sarah's in her room listening to music, Maxx is outside. You just can't see him.**
2. **Ha ha, was too.**
3. **I didn't like it either—the glasses are back.**
4. **How can I bring him back when his head is starting to rot. Any ideas, anybody?**
5. **Grandparents being in the book are a bad thing?**
6. **Gee—that's on my list of *good* things. Just kidding—this month you're all over this column.**

Things I *did* like about *your letter*:

1. **It was just long enough**
2. **It was just short enough**
3. **It moved me deeply**
4. **It fit the bottom of my birdcage just right.**

Dear Golden Calf,

Speaking of computers **[were we?]**, Mike Heisler talks good about you on America Online. You should get it too. There's a big loyal fan club yearning for you down there. Ask Mike. He's really on your side.

[this dude/dudette forgot to sign his/her name]
Williamsport, PA

I like it when Mike talks good.

MTV wants to set up an interview on The Internet. Is there anybody out there who is up for this?

Dear Mr. Kieth,

Are you and Kelley Jones good friends? I noticed that you and he worked on The Incredible Hulk #368, and you both did the Knightfall covers, and his name is

in a couple of your books.

Ben Olson
Glendale, AZ

Kelley Jones–I can't seem to get *rid* of the guy. He keeps showing up in *Maxx* backgrounds because Jim Sinclair keeps drawing him in there. Jim and Kelley go back even further than me and Kelley. We all live in Sacramento, but Kelley and I hang out minimally. He and Jim are tight.

Kelley uses a brush and gets those nice, thin, pointy lines that I used to get before I got lazy and switched to Magic Markers and crayolas. People should check him out—he's the new artist on *Batman* , where he used to do only covers. If you like his covers, you'll love his innards—I know *I* do.

Speaking of Jim, congrats to him and Lisa on their new baby girl!

Dear Sam,

Well let me tell you, me and my best friend, Jaime, love your comic. In fact that's the only comic she collects now. I wish I was as smart as her, I'm poor now.

Well anyways we love the style you draw in and the dialog and writing are great. I'm one of the people who's been reading the indicia since #1. And to answer your question—I'm reading this because I have no life.

Well can you please print this because I'm starting a Maxx-zine and I want people to know where they can get it. And to you sir, I forgot your name, who mentioned in the letters in #12 that you were starting a Maxx-zine, don't worry. I'm not competing against you. It's something I've been wanting to do for a while. Besides, you can't have too many Maxx-zines, can you? There's plenty of Maxx-heads out there.

Also I'd like to say. . .I'm a girl. Duh. Well just in case guys think that girls don't like comics because of blood and gory stuff, they can know that I love comics, and I think more women should be in the comic industry—starting with me! I'm also a riot grrrl and I like what this comic has to stand for. Julie is a real cool chick. To any other riot grrrls who may be reading this—write me! I know hardly any grrrls who are into comics like me. And guys—don't freak out 'cuz I'm an r.g. I don't want any hate mail. I'm NOT a man-hater (I have a boyfriend). And I'm not a lesbian—so chill. Well that's about it!

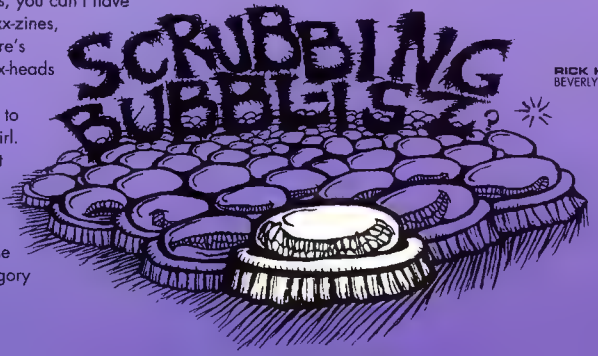
Sincerely,
Heather Galluzzi
10824 Pinole Road
Apple Valley, CA 92307

P.S. I think the way you're ending the story at #20 is cool, Sam. Also, how did Julie get out of the bathroom?

The way anybody does—screwdriver behind the toilet.

Would people be pissed if I keep going after #20? I feel like I have some more stories to tell.

P.S. Sorry I lied about quitting. March 27. Be there. Meep.



RICK HUDSON
BEVERLY, MA

WHEN HIS PAST
STOPPED.
HE COULDN'T REMEMBER WHAT TO DO,
SO HE MADE A HOLE IN THE DARK
and SKIPPED OUT ON THE WHOLE THING...

SPLASH
DRIP
RAIN?
PLIP
PLOP
RAIN CAN'T STOP MAXX...
Boink
WHAT ARE YOU?
PLISH
PLINK

MY MASK!
MY CLAWS!
THEY AREN'T REAL!
AAARRGHHH
and THE CHASE IS ON...
one MILE...
BOINGG
SKIP
I'LL GET YOU, YOU LITTLE...
five MILES...
HOAFF HOAFF PUFF
ten MILES...
"HUHH..."
HUNH...
"gasp"
HUFH
Hnn...
MAXX SAYS:

ART and STORY by STEVE OLIFF

ANDY RISTAINO
Providence, RI